

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method for identifying and/or making compounds for use in reducing and/or preventing fibrosis, comprising the steps:
 - (a) providing a cell type capable of expressing TIEG and/or Smad-7;
 - (b) providing a test compound;
 - (c) providing an amount of CTGF or a functional equivalent thereof;
 - (d) exposing the cell type to the test compound;
 - (e) subsequently or simultaneously exposing the cell type to the CTGF or a functional equivalent thereof;
 - (f) detecting and/or measuring the production of Smad-7 and/or TIEG;
 - (g) comparing the amount of Smad-7 and/or TIEG expressed in the presence of the test compound with the amount of Smad-7 and/or TIEG expressed detected and/or measured in the absence of the test compound; and
 - (h) determining if a compound reduces and/or prevents fibrosis on the basis that it causes no change or an increase in Smad-7 expression and/or no change or a decrease in TIEG expression.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:
 - (i) isolation of a test compound resulting in no change or an increase in Smad-7 expression and/or no change or a decrease in TIEG expression.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 2 further comprising the step of
 - (j) formulating the isolated compound into a composition further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient and/or diluent.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any previous Claim~~ Claim 1 wherein the compound interacts directly with the interaction between CTGF and TIEG.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of Claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1 wherein the compound interacts indirectly with the interaction between CTGF and TIEG.
6. (Original) A compound which is capable of reducing and/or preventing the activity of CTGF in the induction of TIEG expression and/or suppression of Smad-7 expression.
7. (Currently Amended) A compound identified and/or made by the method of ~~any of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1 for use in reducing and/or preventing the activity of CTGF in the induction of TIEG expression and/or suppression of Smad-7 expression.
8. (Original) A compound as claimed in either of Claims 6 and 7 which is at least one selected from polypeptides, antibody molecules and antisense nucleotides.
9. (Original) A compound as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the compound is an antibody molecule.
10. (Original) A compound as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the compound is an antisense nucleotide.
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Currently Amended) A method of treating and/or preventing a fibrotic disease comprising administering a therapeutically or prophylactically effective dose, or plurality of doses, of a compound identified and/or made by the method of ~~any of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1.
16. (Currently Amended) A method of treating and/or preventing a fibrotic disease comprising administering a therapeutically or prophylactically effective dose, or plurality of doses, of a compound as claimed in ~~any of Claims 6 to 10~~ Claim 7.
17. (Original) A method as claimed in either Claims 15 or 16 wherein the fibrotic disease is one selected from diabetic nephropathy, non-diabetic kidney fibrosis, lung fibrosis, liver fibrosis (cirrhosis), skeletal muscle fibrosis, cardiac muscle fibrosis, atherosclerosis,

systemic sclerosis, scleroderma, retinal fibrosis, radiation fibrosis, keloid scar formation and cancer-associated fibrosis.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A use A method~~ as claimed in Claim 17 wherein the disease is diabetic nephropathy.